



CITIZEN CORPS

"Through civic involvement and volunteerism, every citizen is encouraged to do their part to strengthen their community and fight the evils of terrorism."
Gray Davis

Citizen Corps, a presidential initiative, was developed to engage Americans in individual, community and family safety programs as a way to help prepare people for disasters and other emergencies, including acts of terrorism.

GO SERV received \$1.6 million in seed money to develop California's Citizen Corps Councils and increase the number of people trained through California's existing Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program.

Citizen Corps Councils

Citizen Corps Councils will serve as an intersection in local communities, arranging necessary training and providing information for public education and awareness efforts. Working with a variety of organizational partners, Councils will integrate Citizen Corps programs with law, fire and other emergency response programs to ensure that communities are working collaboratively in order to meet local emergency needs as they arise. While each neighborhood, community and region will determine its own Citizen Corps Council membership, the primary qualification to participate in the Council is the commitment to educate the public on safety, to help citizens take an active role in protecting themselves from harm, to teach citizens what to do in the event of a crisis, and to expand volunteer opportunities that will make the community safer.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program helps train people to be better prepared to respond to emergency situations in their communities. CERT members provide critical support to first responders, such as police/sheriff and fire fighters during an emergency. CERT volunteers assist affected people, organize spontaneous volunteers, and collect disaster information to support emergency response efforts. CERT training includes disaster preparedness, disaster fire suppression, basic disaster medical operations, and light search and rescue operations.

To find out about a local Citizen Corps Council or CERT program in your area, visit the GO SERV website at <http://www.goserv.ca.gov/cc/cc.asp>.

QUICK FACTS

GO SERV supports **nearly 60** Citizen Corps Councils across the state.

GO SERV funding for Citizen Corps programs totals more than **\$1.6 million**.

SERVE YOUR NEIGHBOR. SERVE YOUR NATION. FIND OUT HOW AT WWW.GOSERV.CA.GOV

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